

## HEREBY WE KNOW

### 1 John 2: 3-6

3 ways to know that you know God

1. Test of obedience—Moral test
2. Test of love—Social test
3. Test of belief in Christ—doctrinal test

Situation of the day: Gnostics were very active and their false doctrine was spreading like leaven...yeast in flour. They claimed:

1. To know God
2. To be in fellowship with God..

John addresses questions:

- How detect or recognize real thing?
- How truly know that I know God?
- How is my life related to truth of God?

**1 John 2:3** *Know*: find out, learn, understand; perceive; discern, to have knowledge, acknowledge, recognize be very certain

Here is how can be certain that have a relationship with God.

*If we keep His commandments*: If we watch over, heed, continue in His commandments.

*Commandments*: God's orders, injunctions, commands, orders, decrees, rules.

God plants desire in heart of His children to obey Him.

A truly born-again believer that is acquainted with him will have a desire to obey the Word of God.

Boice: *There is no knowledge of God without an accompanying righteousness, for God is righteous.*

Titus 1:16 2 Tim 3:5 2 Tim 3:7

### 1 John 2:4

Matt Hen: *But what knowledge of God can that be which sees not that he is most worthy of the most entire and intense obedience? And, if that be seen and known, how vain and superficial is even this knowledge when it sways not the heart unto obedience! A disobedient life is the confutation and shame of pretended religious knowledge; it gives the lie to such boasts and pretences, and shows that there is neither religion nor honesty in them*

**1 John 2:5** *Love of God perfected*: love for God...ability to love with God's love... brought to complete maturity .

Real and genuine love for God is expressed not only in emotional and syrupy feelings or mysterious and mystical experience but in practical and moral obedience.

John 14:15 , 21, 23; 15:10

Why obey?

1. Constraint.
2. Need
3. Desire.

*Hereby know we that we are in Him.* In fellowship with Him.

*In Him*: refer to being in Christ...child of God...born again.

2 Cor 5:17

2 types of Christians:

1. Talk and no walk
2. Talk and walk

**1 John 2:6** *Abide in Him:* stay, remain, endure. To have a living and right relationship with God. To be in fellowship with God. Right with God.

Abide in Christ? Complete conformity to example of Christ as well as His commandments.

Stott: *We cannot claim to abide in Him unless we behave like Him!*

1 John 2:29; 3:3,7 ; 1 Pet 2:21

**So what?**

- If we claim to Know him then we will obey Him... 6.
- If we claim to know Him and don't obey His Word we are a liars and the truth is not in us. 7
- If we are growing in our walk with God then our desire to obey Him will be growing. 6
- If we are growing in our walk of obedience to God then we will be growing in our love for God and others. 5
- If I claim to have a close relationship with God then my lifestyle will be consistent with the lifestyle of Christ. 6